

Supplement to this issue

1. VCE Data Service
Online access to school VCE data and analysis



SELECTIONS FROM VCE SEASON OF EXCELLENCE

VCAA Bulletin

Information to schools about the VCE and VCAL

Principal VCE/VCAL Coordinator VCE/VCAL Teachers

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Top Screen 2004 at ACMI

Top Screen will be back at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) in 2004. With eight sessions over three weeks, students will have the opportunity to see cutting edge media productions and attend industry panels and discussion forums with filmmakers.

The Top Screen launch is scheduled for 7 pm on Tuesday 27 April, and the ever-popular screening plus panel discussion with filmmakers and state reviewers will be held the evening of Friday 7 May. Prices for screenings only will be \$7 and \$5

regional concession; for associated education programs \$10 and \$8, with reductions for early and pre-paid bookings.

The dates for Top Screen are 27 April, 28 April, 6 May, 7 May, 10 May and 11 May. Timing of sessions and education program content will be published as they are confirmed in subsequent VCAA BULLETINS and on the VCAA website. ACMI will be responsible for all bookings which will open in December.

continued: BACKPAGE



Mariko Mori *Link* 2000 Photo: John Gollings © 2003



Important administrative dates

Full details of dates appear in the *VCE Administrative Handbook 2003*.

| 2003 | |
|---|---|
| Friday 10 October | <p>Enrolment 5 data due at VCAA.</p> <p>After this date VASS will not allow schools to enrol or withdraw students in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – VCE Units 1 and 2 – VCE VET units of competence/modules. |
| Wednesday 15 October | <p>SIAR 3 School-assessed Task scores due at the VCAA. Indicative grades for October/November examinations including performance examinations are also required.</p> <p>After this date VASS will not allow schools to enter SIAR 3 scores or indicative grades.</p> |
| Friday 17 October | <p>Final day for lodging requests to inspect scripts for examinations in the June examination period.</p> |
| Monday 20 October | <p>School Status Report identifying School-assessed Tasks from the SIAR 3 required for review, ARRF for the School-assessed Tasks received in schools.</p> |
| Tuesday 21 October | <p>LOTE (CCAFL) written examinations.</p> |
| Monday 27 October | <p>Review by visitation of School-assessed Tasks begin.</p> |
| Wednesday 29 October | <p>Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework audit material due at the VCAA.</p> |
| Friday 31 October to Friday 21 November | <p>Written examinations held.</p> |
| Friday 14 November | <p>Final day for Principals to lodge Score Amendments for School-assessed Tasks from SIAR 1.</p> <p>Final day for Principals to lodge requests for Confirmation of Grades for results released to schools.</p> <p>Earliest date School-assessed Tasks in the Arts and Technology may be returned to students.</p> |
| Monday 17 November | <p>SIAR 4 scores for Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework.</p> <p>After this date VASS will not allow schools to enter SIAR 4 scores.</p> |
| Monday 24 November | <p>SIAR 5 unit results due at the VCAA.</p> <p>After this date VASS will not allow schools to enter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – VCE unit results – VCE VET unit of competence/module results – VCE VET coursework results – VCAL unit results |
| Week beginning Monday 15 December | <p>Results available to students.</p> |
| Date to be confirmed | <p>Final results available to schools.</p> <p>Results package sent to schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Statements of Results for students studying VCE Units 1 and 2 only or VCAL – Certificates for students who have successfully completed their VCE or VCAL – VCE VET Statement of Results listing units of competence/modules completed for students studying Units 1 and 2 only – General Achievement Test Statement. – Statements of Results for students studying VCE Units 3 and 4 will be sent to students. |

CEO's column



October is the beginning of the VCE examination period for many students. Those who are studying the performing arts and languages other than English will have an opportunity to express themselves in performance and oral examinations this month.

For students of Dance, Drama, Theatre Studies and Music Performance this will be an opportunity for their creativity to come to the fore, demonstrating how the VCE is a multi-faceted and flexible certificate. Friday 31 October is the day when all VCE and VCE VET students enrolled in Units 3 and 4 will sit their English written examination, heralding a three-week period of written examinations.

You will have heard the Minister announcing changes to the *VCAA Act 2000*. The proposed changes are designed to strengthen the Authority's powers to investigate breaches of examination rules and examination security, to impose penalties on students who breach the rules and to hear appeals by students, including appeals against decisions made at the school level.

The proposed changes reflect the commitment given at the end of 2002 to strengthen the VCE examination security arrangements. These amendments will increase public confidence in the fairness of the VCE examination procedures for both those who are alleged to have cheated and also for those who have complied with the rules.

The proposed changes allow the VCAA to appoint a Review Committee to deal with any such cases that might occur this year. The amendments include procedures which ensure natural justice and for an appeals committee to consider the decisions of the Review Committee if students should wish that. The changes to the Act will also continue to allow students to engage legal representation should they wish to do so.

The Bill reinforces the view that the only fair penalty for students who cheat or break the rules in other ways, is the alteration or cancellation of academic results. We certainly hope that these powers will not be needed and that the examinations go well for all involved. The VCAA will provide more detailed information on the changes in the near future.

The VCE Season of Excellence 2003 officially ended in July when Top Designs closed at the Melbourne Museum and plans are well underway for the 2004 Season. Teachers and students of VCE Art, Studio Arts, Media, Technology, Visual Communication and Design have a short time in which to apply for both Top Designs and Top Arts. They can access application forms on the VCAA website and from the August and September VCAA BULLETINS. The deadline for applications is 23 October and we look forward to another successful Season in 2004.

The Administrative Handbook, previously for VCE only, will include VCAL in 2004. The new look Administrative Handbook will provide school administrators with a 'one-stop-shop' for all information required to support the enrolment and assessment procedures for the VCE and VCAL certificates. The handbook is due in schools in early November.

Welcome back to Term 4! I hope it will be a successful and enjoyable term for all.

Michael White
Chief Executive Officer
October 2003

Student Records and Results

VASS data or applications due at VCAA in October and November

Important dates for October and November are as follows:

| Date | VASS data or applications due at the VCAA | Containing | Comments |
|--|---|--|--|
| Friday 10 October | Final Enrolment Data | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to VET module enrolments • Changes to VCE Units 1 and 2 enrolments • Changes to VCAL Unit enrolments | |
| Wednesday 15 October | SIAR 3 Data | Scores for VCE School-assessed Tasks. Final date for indicative grades for Oct/Nov examinations, including performance examinations | |
| Friday 17 October | Script Inspections | | Final day for lodging requests to inspect scripts for examinations in the June examination period. |
| Friday 14 November | Confirmation of Grades | | Final day for principals to lodge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requests for confirmation of grades for results released to schools in August • score amendments for School-assessed Tasks from SIAR 1. |
| Monday 17 November | SIAR 4 Data | VCE Unit 4 Coursework Scores | |
| No extensions are possible for SIAR 4 | | | |
| Monday 24 November | SIAR 5 Data | VCE and VCAL Unit results, VCE VET unit of competence/module results and VCE VET coursework | For VCE VET coursework a student must have a valid assessment plan and S or N results for units of competence/modules assigned to the plan before scores can be entered. Statements of Results and Certificates will be printed using the names and addresses received from VASS via this data. |
| No extensions are possible for SIAR 5 | | | |
| Friday 28 November | Student addresses | | Last day for students to change their addresses for delivery of VCE results. Schools will not be able to change addresses on VASS after this date. |

Erratum

Important Administrative Dates (page 2 of the September 2003 VCAA BULLETIN)

Monday 24 November should read:

SIAR 5 unit results due at the VCAA

After this date VASS will not allow schools to enter:

- VCE unit results
- VCE VET unit of competence/module
- VCE VET coursework results

Please disregard

- Consideration of Disadvantage

Final day for notifying the VCAA of CofD status

VASS Data

This is a reminder that all data entered is essential to final results processing. Data should be checked for accuracy prior to entering. Once results have been entered schools should print off both the School Assessed Results Report and Unit Results Report and teachers should check that the results entered are correct. It is imperative that schools complete their data by the scheduled dates. Schools are encouraged to complete entering results early, which will reduce the activity on the database at the end of this period. The cooperation of all school's is gratefully appreciated.

VCAL eligibility

Schools are reminded that the due date for final amendments to program enrolments for VCAL students is Friday 10 October.

In the final three weeks of October the Student Records and Results Unit will contact any school that appears to have enrolment anomalies for students with VCAL programs. Typical anomalies may be that the student has a program enrolment that precludes them from achieving the VCAL in 2003, or allows them only to achieve a Certificate at a level already attained in 2002.

VCE VET Scored Sequences

Study Scores for:

- Arts (Interactive Multimedia)
- Business (Office Administration)
- Community Services (Community Work)
- Dance
- Electronics
- Financial Services
- Furnishing (Cabinet-making stream)
- Hospitality (Operations)
- Information Technology (Software Application)
- Information Technology (General)
- Information Technology (Network Administration)
- Laboratory Skills

Schools are reminded that the due date for SIAR 5 is also the due date for VET coursework task scores to be entered on VASS. The due date is **Monday 24 November**.

Schools with Registered Training Organisation (RTO) partners are responsible for ensuring that their RTO is aware of this VCAA due date, and is able to supply coursework scores for each student in advance of that date.

For each student receiving a Study Score the school must ensure that a valid Assessment Plan is in place. A valid Assessment Plan is a selection of tasks which as a set cover the competencies in the student's Unit 3–4 sequence, and which is within the guidelines for selection set out in the relevant VCAA assessment guide. It will not be possible to enter coursework scores for a student with an invalid Assessment Plan or no Assessment Plan.

For each student a numerical score out of 25 must be entered for each of the VET coursework tasks selected in the Assessment Plan. Schools should retain the VET Coursework Assessment Record Sheets for each student, as a record of the ratings from which the score was calculated and as a means of checking the accuracy of results entry. The name of the person who conducted the assessments in each case should be recorded on these sheets. Schools must enter unit of competence/module results before coursework scores can be entered.

VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook 2004

This publication is scheduled to arrive in schools in the week beginning Monday 10 November.

The content will be available in Portable Document Format from the VCAA website in the week beginning Monday 20 October.

Help Desks

Administrative Support

- Technical and system support for problems such as inability to access VASS, database errors, setting up other school users.

Contact: Frank Lepore

Pam Gawith

Margaret Andersson

Greg Davis

1800 827 721 or (03) 9651 4482

Fax: (03) 9651 4551

Email: vass.support@edumail.vic.gov.au

Student Records and Results Unit

- Advice regarding enrolment errors and submission of scores and unit results
- Difficulties with entering scores for studies, missing data due to student transfers or withdrawals
- For schools wishing to make amendments due to data entry error for coursework or School-assessed Tasks

Contact: Kerry Veal
1800 653 045
(03) 9651 4402
Fax: (03) 9651 4470
Email: student.records@edumail.vic.gov.au

- For schools wanting to make late amendments to unit of competence enrolments, results and/or Assessment Plans For VCE VET scored sequences

Contact: Justin Seabury
(03) 9651 4408
Email: seabury.justin.s@edumail.vic.gov.au

Contact: Angie Burton
(03) 9651 4376
Fax: (03) 9651 4470

Examinations

Use of calculators in VCE examinations 2004

The VCAA monitors developments in calculator and related technology and publishes details of approved calculators for use in examinations annually. Only VCAA approved calculators or other technology may be used in examinations. Calculators of any type are **not** permitted to be used during the General Achievement Test (GAT). Calculators that have graphical, symbolic or programmable capabilities (see below for more specific guidelines) may be used, provided that the model is approved. Where there are doubts about whether a particular model is approved, schools should ascertain its status by contacting the Examinations Unit of the VCAA, preferably at the beginning of the course, but no later than one month before the relevant examination is held.

For further information contact Kris Allen on (03) 9651 4343.

Conditions of use

The conditions under which calculators may be used are:

- The calculator must be silent and of the hand-held type containing its own power source.
- Students will be entirely responsible for ensuring adequate power supply to their calculators and the proper working order of their calculators.
- Students must supply their own spare batteries. Any battery failure or other fault which limits the usefulness of a calculator during an examination will not be taken into consideration by the assessors.
- No student may borrow a calculator from another student after entering the examination room.
- No magnetic cards may be used.

Programmable calculators

Programmable calculators, other than those with features specifically excluded below, may be used in examinations. A programmable calculator is one in which the user can store a sequence of operations which the calculator will then execute automatically. Students are permitted to bring programs stored on their calculator into Mathematics examinations only. A calculator is excluded if it:

- operates with paper tapes
- make noise or 'talks'
- needs mains electricity.

Other technology

Computers, mini-computers, pocket-organisers, laptops, palmtops, calculator models that can 'communicate' with other calculators, notebooks and the like are also excluded, except under specified circumstances for which prior approval has been given by the VCAA.

Two calculators

For examinations, other than the Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot, where the use of an approved calculator is permitted students may use one approved graphics and/or one scientific calculator.

For examinations, other than mathematics examinations, where the use of an approved calculator is permitted students in the Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot only may use one approved CAS calculator (including the TI-92/ TI-92 PLUS/ *Voyage 200*) and/or one scientific calculator.

For examinations in the Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot students may use one approved CAS calculator or other approved CAS and/or one scientific calculator.

Only students enrolled in Mathematical Methods (CAS) may use approved CAS calculators or other approved CAS.

Mathematics examinations

For Examinations 1 and 2 of Further Mathematics, Mathematical Methods and Specialist Mathematics, the full functions of approved graphics calculators may be used (that is, the memories of these calculators memories do **not** require clearing prior to entry of the examination).

Graphics calculators

The following graphics calculators are approved by the VCAA for use in examinations for 2004.

Casio

FX-7300G, FX7400G, FX7400G PLUS, FX7700G, FX-8500G, FX-9700G, CFX-9800G, CFX-9850G, CFX-9850G PLUS, CFX-9850GB PLUS, CFX-9850GB PLUS-WE, CFX-9950G

Hewlett-Packard

HP 38G, HP39G, HP39G PLUS

Sharp

EL-9200, EL-9300, EL-9400, EL-9600, EL9650, EL 9900

Texas Instruments

TI-80, TI-81, TI-82, TI-83, TI-83 PLUS (not silver edition), TI-85, TI-86

Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot study

For examinations in the Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot study in 2004, the following CAS calculators are approved for use by students from approved schools, and their full functions may be used (that is, the memories of these calculators memories do **not** require clearing prior to entry of the examination).

Casio

Algebra FX2.0, Algebra FX2.0 PLUS

Hewlett Packard

HP 40G

Texas Instruments

TI-89, TI-89 PLUS

Other CAS

For Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot Examinations 1 and 2 in 2004, the use of the TI-92/TI-92 PLUS/*Voyage* 200, and computer based CAS *Derive* and *Mathematica*, is permitted for students from approved pilot schools, provided that students do not have access to programs or files other than those specified by the VCAA, during the examination. Declaration forms will be provided to school principals prior to the November examinations.

For examinations in Accounting, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Information Systems, Physics, Systems and Technology, VCE VET Business (Office Administration) and VCE VET Electronics, VCE VET Financial Services and VCE VET Laboratory Skills, the use of an approved graphics calculator, CAS calculator, TI-92/TI 92 PLUS/*Voyage* 200 is permitted provided that **the memory of the calculator has been cleared** prior to entering the examination.

The use of computer based CAS is **not** permitted in any VCE examinations other than the Mathematical Methods (CAS) pilot.

VCE Assessment reports

Individual study reports on Examinations, Coursework and School-assessed Tasks (2002 Graded Assessments) are published on the VCAA website <www.vcaa.vic.edu.au> for the use of teachers and students.

Teachers should note that these reports are only published on the website.

Statistical information is also available on the VCAA website at: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/stats/index.htm

Reports on the 2003 mid-year examinations are expected to be posted on the website in November.

Identifying Anomalous Examination Grades

With regard to identifying anomalous examination grades, the June 2003 VCAA BULLETIN advised that:

‘For the June examinations, the scripts include those where the student’s examination assessment is lower than that expected when compared with the school’s indicative grade, and/or the student’s GAT component scores indicate a predicted score well above that obtained in the examination.’

For the October/November examinations, scripts identified for anomalous grade marking also include those where the student’s examination assessment is significantly lower than other assessments in the study.

For further information visit the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/VCE/Assessment/qualityassurance/AnomalousGrades.htm

Special Provision update**Derived Examination Scores (DES)**

A revised version of the Derived Examination Score (DES) Individual Application form is now available. Copies have been sent to schools. The new form should be used for any individual DES applications during the October/November examination period. (Please destroy remaining copies of the earlier version.) The Group application form has not been changed for the October/November examination period.

The closing dates for applications for a DES for examinations across the October/November period will vary for each student. Please note that October 21 written LOTE, oral, performance or November written examinations will each require a separate DES application, so students must be aware of their closing dates for DES.

The VCAA has arranged for students to have their individualised DES application closing dates printed on their examination timetable which is available through VASS. **Schools should make these individual timetables available to each student to minimise misunderstandings about closing dates for DES applications.**

Timelines are limited – DES applications must arrive at the VCAA seven (7) days after the student’s last examination in that period. The individual timetables contain the key DES dates for all examinations. Late DES applications will only be received in exceptional circumstances. No applications will be considered by the VCAA after the final examination results have been released.

It is vital for schools to reinforce that, for a DES application to be successful, students must supply timely independent evidence which confirms that their preparation for an

examination, or their performance at an examination, was severely impacted by illness or personal trauma arising within fourteen days of their first examination in that period. If students are ill they **must** consult their treating doctors as close as possible to the date of the examination – the VCAA will not accept post dated medical certificates.

The DES screen on VASS will be altered. Schools are now expected to only enter confirmation of receipt of the student's DES application and the relevant studies.

The VCAA will email schools, via VASS, to confirm that the DES application has been received by the VCAA. Similarly, when the DES panel decision is available, schools will be emailed the decision. Students will also be notified by mail at their home address. No decisions regarding any DES applications will be conveyed to schools or a student until after the student's final November written examination. The timeline for students to appeal against a decision is limited – students need to submit appeals to reach the VCAA within seven days of the notification of the panel decision.

The final results package mailed to students will include a separate letter advising the outcomes of their DES application. For approved applications, this will also indicate whether the DES or the Achieved Examination Score was used in the calculation of the Study Score.

Further information on DES can be obtained from Chris Byrt (03 9811 6238) or Andy Murphy (03 9811 6225).

Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs)

Schools should access VASS to confirm whether the VCAA has authorised Special Examination Arrangements (SEAs) for a particular student and also to ascertain what arrangement has been permitted. The SEAs should be printed for the student and a copy should also be provided to the Chief Supervisor.

Schools will be aware that the VCAA has not accepted many SEA applications on their first submission this year, mainly due to a failure to provide 'current supporting medical and/or other professional evidence.' In many cases, psychological and/or educational test results submitted to the VCAA to support evidence of a learning disability date back to assessments completed in primary school. The VCAA wishes to strongly emphasise the need for **current relevant evidence** to support SEA applications.

SEA applications for learning disability students who are requesting additional time, reader, scribe or computer require recent evidence from intelligence and educational tests. Tests should have Australian norms. Tests such as WISC 111, WAIS (adults), South Australian Spelling Test, TORCH, and English Skills Assessment PAT-R are appropriate to use.

SEA applications for language learning disorder or hearing impaired students who are requiring a clarifier, require recent evidence from intelligence and educational tests (see above) and also a language assessment (CELF-3 or TOAL-3 are most commonly used) or an audiology report.

Further information on SEAs can be obtained from Andy Murphy (03 9811 6225) or Chris Byrt (03 9811 6238).

VCE Review 2004

The VCAA regularly reviews and evaluates individual VCE studies to ensure that the VCE curriculum continues to meet the community's expectations for high standards and high quality senior secondary education.

The review, evaluation and curriculum development process is informed by the *VCAA Principles, Guidelines and Procedures for Review of VCE Studies* (Supplement 1 to the March 2003 VCE BULLETIN, No. 186).

The accreditation periods for the following VCE studies expire on 31 December 2005. The VCAA is recommending to the Victorian Qualifications Authority (VQA) that all of the studies proceed to review in 2004:

The Arts

Music Performance*†

Music Styles*†

English

English/ESL

English Language

Foundation English

Literature

Health and Physical Education

Physical Education

Outdoor and Environmental Studies

Mathematics

Mathematics

Science

Biology

Chemistry

Environmental Science

SOSE: Business Studies

Industry and Enterprise Studies

Legal Studies

SOSE: Humanities Studies

Contemporary Australian Society

Geography

International Studies*

Political Studies*

Religion and Society

Technology

Agricultural and Horticultural Studies

Food and Technology

* Subject to recommendations from the Citizenship and Globalisation Working Party.

† Subject to recommendations from the Music Expert Studies Committee.

In cases where only minor revisions are warranted to a study design the VCAA will establish a study writing team. Most studies, however, will proceed through a full review and evaluation process by a VCAA established study review committee.

Expressions of interest are sought from suitably qualified persons to participate in the curriculum review, evaluation and development process. Review committees typically consist of between 8–10 members from schools, universities, training, industry and business sectors who are appointed according to their expertise and capacity to contribute to the review process. Committee meetings are held at the VCAA's offices in either East Melbourne or Camberwell, and occasionally by mutual agreement at other venues. Applicants should familiarise themselves with the *VCAA Principles, Guidelines and Procedures for Review of VCE Studies* published as Supplement 1 to the March 2003 VCE BULLETIN, No. 186 and available on the VCAA website at <www.vcaa.vic.edu.au>. An expression of interest form is published on pages 14 and 15 and should be returned to the VCAA by Friday 14 November 2003 to the address provided on the form. Further details of the establishment of review committees, study writing teams and reporting timelines will be published during Term 4.

VCE Technology Expert Studies Committee Report

The VCE Technology Expert Studies Committee final report and recommendations were received at the August Post-compulsory Curriculum and Assessment Committee meeting and approved at the September Board meeting. The Expert Studies Committee was established in December 2002 to provide advice to the VCAA on a range of issues relating to all VCE technology studies prior to the review of individual studies. The Terms of Reference and committee membership are published on the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/studies/tech

Key findings of the report

The committee found that one of the key distinguishing features of a VCE technology study is the combination of theoretical understanding and knowledge and its application to solutions to practical problems encountered in everyday life and in industrial and commercial contexts.

In reporting on the degree of duplication between VCE technology studies and VCE VET programs, the committee found minimal duplication between VCE VET Agriculture, VCE VET Horticulture and VCE Agricultural and Horticultural Studies; VCE VET Hospitality and VCE Food and Technology; and VCE VET Automotive and VCE Systems and Technology. It was found through a series of case studies and curriculum mapping exercises that in most cases a VCE technology study and VCE VET program are complimentary and may be advantageous for students who wish to pursue specific pathways.

The committee reported further that design already has a significant role in VCE technology studies, in particular in Design and Technology, Systems and Technology and Food and Technology, particularly with respect to the use of the technology process undertaken in School-assessed Tasks.

An extensive survey of teachers help to inform the finding that information and communications technology (ICT) is increasingly being used in technology studies and has specific applications in Design and Technology (CAD) and Systems and Technology (Crocodile clips).

Recommendations

- That VCE Agricultural and Horticultural Studies and VCE Food and Technology commence the review process for accreditation in 2004 and implementation in 2006.
- That the VCAA recommend to the VQA that the accreditation periods for VCE Design and Technology and VCE Systems and Technology be extended until 31 December 2006, and the studies be reviewed for accreditation in 2005 and implementation in 2007.

Following the comprehensive analysis of data on student performance, pathways, enrolments, assessment, and national and international developments in design and technology, the Expert Studies Committee presented their final recommendations to the Board of the VCAA.

The VCAA would like to thank the VCE Technology Expert Studies Committee members and the many teachers who were involved in the ICT surveys and consultation during the committee's deliberations. Interested parties are now invited to participate in the review process by completing the Expression of Interest form which can be found on pages 14 and 15.

Enquiries about either the review or the recommendations can be directed to the Key Learning Area Manager, Technology, Lorraine Tran on (03) 9651 4407.

VCE VET

Program update

VCE VET Clothing Industry program for 2004

The newly accredited Certificate III in Concept Development for Clothing Products will replace the current VCE VET Certificate II in Clothing Design and Production in 2004.

The revised VCE VET program will provide credit in the VCE at Units 1–4, including a Unit 3–4 sequence.

The program booklet for the revised VCE VET program in Certificate III in Concept Development for Clothing Products will be distributed to schools during Term 4 and will also be available on the VCAA website.

VCE VET Equine Industry

The program booklet for the VCE VET Certificate II in Equine Industry will be distributed to schools during Term 4. This program booklet will contain updated advice on the Unit 3–4 sequence and will incorporate the changes to nominal hours of some of the units of competence that have occurred as a result of training package revision. The web version of this program booklet will be replaced with the updated booklet at the time of hard copy distribution to schools.

School Based New Apprenticeship in Retail Baking

Schools are advised that the School Based New Apprenticeship in Food Processing (Retail Baking) is no longer available.

As a consequence of the national review of the Food Processing Training Package, the Certificate II in Food Processing (Retail Baking) has been deleted.

Students currently enrolled in this certificate may complete their training program and the RTO may issue the qualification for existing students.

However, there will be no new enrolments in 2004, as the qualification will cease to exist.

Schools are asked to contact Lisa Burgess, VET Project Officer, on (03) 96514427 for advice on a replacement training program for prospective School Based Apprentices in the baking industry.

VCAA VET Briefings

A series of information briefings for schools and their Registered Training Organisation (RTO) partners on VCE VET, School Based New Apprenticeships and Block Credit recognition arrangements will be held from mid November to early December 2003 at the following regional and metropolitan locations:

- Bairnsdale
- Ballarat
- Bendigo
- Benalla
- Eastern metropolitan region
- Geelong
- Horsham
- Mildura
- Morwell
- Northern metropolitan region
- Southern metropolitan region
- Warnambool
- Western metropolitan region.

An edumail Memorandum to Schools will be sent out in mid October with full details and a registration form. For further details please contact Kate Rule in the VET Unit: (03) 9651 4458 or rule.catherine.e@edumail.vic.gov.au or by viewing the following section of the VCAA website:

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/calendar/SenSecCalendar/SenSecCalendar.htm

Text Selection Panels

Expressions of interest are invited from suitably qualified teachers wishing to participate in the VCE English and Literature text selection processes in 2004.

Recent experience in the teaching of VCE English and/or Literature is desirable although not necessary for appointment to a panel. The VCAA would be particularly interested in receiving applications from teachers with between three and ten years classroom experience.

The selection of texts is a crucial component of the VCE English and Literature studies, and membership of one of the text selection panels provides a worthwhile opportunity for teachers to gain valuable experience as well as having a direct input into course content.

More information and the Expression of Interest form can be found in Liftout 2 of this Bulletin.

Applications close on Friday 28 November.

Notices

Melbourne University School of Physics

Physics in Context professional development day

A flyer detailing Melbourne University's Physics in Context professional development day accompanies this VCAA BULLETIN. All enquiries should be directed to the School of Physics (see flyer for contact details).

Career Education Association of Victoria (CEAV)

The CEAV is conducting its biennial conference, 'Eureka: New and Emerging Skills' Sunday 7 – Tuesday 9 December.

The event is relevant for careers, VET coordinators, work experience coordinators and MIPS coordinators.

Please call Linda or Casey on (03) 9349 1900 to request a program and booking form. Further information is on the website www.netspace.net.au/~ceav

VCAA Plain English Speaking Award

The VCAA is keen to hear from English teachers who are interested in being judges in the 2004 VCAA Plain English Speaking Award. Information about the Award can be found on the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/awards/plainEng/index.htm

The regional finals of the 2004 Award will take place at the end of Term 3.

Interested teachers should contact Carole Lander, Manager, Information Services on (03) 9651 4328 or information.services.vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au

VCE Achiever



The VCE Achiever Awards highlight the achievements of VCE students, who, during an already demanding period of their lives, take a leadership role in their school and in their local community and provide a role model for others. They actively participate in community activities such as volunteer work, fundraising, public speaking, and supporting local activities such as the arts, preservation of the environment, assisting the disadvantaged, media and sporting events.

Those wishing to apply should fill out an application form and provide a CV (3 pages maximum) listing their achievements during their VCE. Students can also attach media cuttings and letters of commendation but are asked to keep these to a minimum. All applications need to be endorsed by the Principal.

For more information on the VCE Achiever Awards, contact the coordinator, Vera Hemkes, on (03) 9651 4557 or visit the VCAA website at: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/achiever/achiever.htm



VCE Achiever for September is Shifa Hussein from Banksia Secondary College.

Shifa has demonstrated an unerring dedication to helping others since moving to Australia from Somalia three years ago. As a young Muslim woman, Shifa has played a major role in developing a suitable version of her school's uniform that conforms to Muslim traditions and she has instigated the establishment of a prayer room for Muslim students.

For the last three years, she has organised a Somali girl's dance for the opening of Multicultural Week and she arranges

morning teas for Somali parents so that parents and teachers can discuss issues concerning the Somali community and education.

As the college's school captain, Shifa has spoken at many school assemblies, co-hosted annual events such as the multicultural concert and organised awards days. Committed to creating stronger community links, Shifa participated in a forum at John Paul College in Frankston where she spoke about the support she received from school staff in making the transition from Somalia to Australia and contributed her ideas on how students and teachers could work together to overcome both social and cultural differences.

'Shifa is an incredibly generous and kind person who has put her energies into making the world a better place', one of her teachers commented.

Giving her time and energy to numerous causes has shown Shifa's altruistic nature. Her efforts have included fundraising for orphaned children in Afghanistan, participation in the World Vision 40-hour famine, and raising money for the Anti-Cancer Foundation as well as the Leukaemia Foundation.

Trained as a volunteer at Wesley Do Care Social Support, Shifa spends time each week helping an isolated person become more involved in the community.

Her teachers have praised her initiatives: 'As one of our two school captains and a member of our SRC, Shifa consistently shows initiative, self direction and enthusiasm in whatever project she undertakes. She is a credit to our school and to the wider community.'

Recently, Shifa represented the school when the Hon. Simon Crean and Shadow Education Minister, the Hon. Jenny Macklin launched the Federal Opposition's new Education Policy at Banksia College.

Professor Kwong Lee Dow, chair of the VCAA, commends Shifa on her commitment: 'Shifa's efforts have certainly made a significant difference in overcoming cultural barriers and making the school and the wider community more informed in creating a greater depth of cultural understanding.'

VCAL Implementation 2004

An additional 60 government schools, 21 catholic schools and six Adult Community Education (ACE) organisations have been approved to implement VCAL in 2004. Accordingly, 309 schools, TAFE institutes and ACE centres will deliver VCAL from next year. A full list of providers is available on the VQA website at www.vqa.vic.gov.au

The VQA will conduct VCAL Induction Workshops for new providers implementing VCAL for the first time in 2004. The workshops will be held as follows:

Wednesday 5 November Victoria University Conference Centre,
Melbourne

Friday 7 November Bell Tower Inn, Ballarat

Monday 10 November Parklake Motor Inn, Shepparton

Schools and other providers have received information about these workshops and the proposed agenda. Please contact Melissa Finlayson at the VQA on (03) 9637 3967 should you require further information about these workshop.



Expression of Interest 2004 VCE Study Review Committee

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The information we collect from you may be used as part of a report to the Authority on the proposed Working Party. All of the information we collect from you will be kept secure and confidential. It will only be used by authorised VCAA staff who are working on the report.

If you have concerns about the way in which your information is collected and stored please contact the VCAA Information Services Unit on (03) 9651 4328.

Study Please use a separate pro forma for each committee in which you are expressing an interest.

Please nominate the VCE study committee you wish to apply for (see page 8 for a list of studies)
(VCE Study committee)

Personal details *(Block letters please)*

FAMILY NAME INITIALS TITLE

FIRST NAME

HOME ADDRESS

STREET

TOWN/SUBURB POSTCODE

TELEPHONE FAX

MOBILE

BUSINESS ADDRESS

PLACE POSITION

STREET

TOWN/SUBURB POSTCODE

TELEPHONE FAX

EMAIL

The completed *Expression of Interest* form should be returned to:

Merry Young
Senior Secondary Curriculum Unit, VCAA
41 St Andrews Place, East Melbourne 3002

Fax: (03) 9651 4324

Closing date: Friday 14 November 2003

I **will/will not** be teaching Units 3 or 4 of this study in 2004.

SIGNED

DATE

Please provide the following information

1. Relevant tertiary qualifications

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

2. Experience with and knowledge of the relevant VCE study design, including teaching experience relevant to the study

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

3. Experience with and knowledge of VCE curriculum and assessment policy

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

4. Other relevant experience in the study or discipline area

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

5. Details of suitable referee

| |
|-------------------|
| NAME |
| LOCATION/POSITION |
| TELEPHONE |

September 2002 to September 2003

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28 August 2003 to 24 September 2003

Memoranda to schools

- 82/2003 re Changes to Eligibility for enrolment in VCE Second Language studies in 2004: Frequently Asked Questions
- 80/2003 re Changes to Eligibility for enrolment in VCE Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese and Korean Second Language and the introduction of VCE Chinese Second Language advanced studies in 2004
- 79/2003 re CSF Annotated Work Samples Professional Development Program for The Arts: Music key learning areas
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- 76/2003 re Examination centres and special examination arrangements for the October/November Examinations 2003
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- September 2003 VCAA BULLETIN
- Liftout – 2003 VCE Results and ENTER Service Supplement 1 – Important Administrative Dates
-  P-10 Supplement: Information about Prep to Year 10 education in Victorian schools (Supplement to September issue of the VCAA BULLETIN)

VCAA BULLETIN Examination Issue 2003
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COPY DEADLINES FOR 2003

| Issue No. and Month | Date of publication | Copy deadline |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| No. 8 November | Monday 17 November | Wednesday 29 October |
| No. 9 December | Monday 15 December | Wednesday 26 November |

Make the most of your booking by including a day-time visit to ACMI's innovative exhibitions spaces – The Memory Grid and Screen Gallery. Production workshops can also be booked in the Screen Pit and Digital Studio.

Deadline for applications to Top Screen, Top Designs and Top Arts: **Thursday 23 October**. Application forms are in the August and September VCAA BULLETINS and online at: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au



Ngarinyin Pathways Dulwan 1992–2002 Photo: John Gollings © 2003



Ngarinyin Pathways Dulwan 1992–2002 Photo: John Gollings © 2003



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Top Arts will celebrate ten years at the National Gallery of Victoria in 2004. Over 700 exhibitors from the last nine years have been sent a request for information with a view to tracking their progress and to select an archive of representative works. However, many addresses are not current. If any teachers have contact details for past exhibitors please contact <anne.harari@ngv.vic.gov.au>. A form is available online at <www.ngv.vic.gov.au/toparts> for past exhibitors to complete.

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