

Do you remember ...back in primary school when received your first detention? by Claire Wang

Do you remember back in primary school when received your first detention? Do you remember how fearful you were going home that night faced with the daunting task of telling your mum you did something wrong? Do you remember big a deal that was back then? Now take a look at the situation and you can laugh with the triviality of it all. That's the way things go. Standing at the bottom of the mountain and the mountain looks enormous. But once you get up that mountain and take a look at how far you've come, it doesn't seem so bad at all.

Getting through university isn't easy but then again, no one ever said it was going to be. The continuous stream of deadlines, the essays and reports that need to be handed in, the assessments that need to be studied for and the caffeine induced all-nighters before those 3 hour exams are all hurdles along the way towards a university degree. Being buried under with the stress of uni work on top of part-time work or sports training or personal issues at home sometimes seems like it's all too much. It times like these when you want to throw in the towel and sulk over a big bowl of ice-cream and Oprah. But the mountain isn't really that big. It's only as big as you let it be. On you graduation day, you'll be able to look back and see how far you've come and be able to say that it wasn't so bad after all.

Effort doesn't guarantee success. But no effort guarantees failure.

Bachelor in Arts and Commerce is a great combination of a practical and challenging degree. It combines an all rounded understanding of commerce and the corporate world of business as well as giving students the opportunity to pursue an arts subject whether it be for personal passion or to complement an arts major. I enjoy the stability that my accounting major will provide me in terms of future job prospects in the real world but also, my arts major allows me to study for a human behavioural studies major which is invaluable to today's employee credentials. Human behavioural studies gives me insight into interpersonal relationships, communication and personality theories. This kind of knowledge greatly complements my commerce degree. Having a straight technical degree is no longer good enough for many employers. The importance of interpersonal communication and customer services skills is greatly beneficial to my employability. I enjoy the flexibility of an arts degree which opens up options for many areas of interest.

Taekwondo is an important part of my university experience. It's given me a chance to meet a great group of very friendly people who welcome new-comers with open enthusiasm. I keep up my fitness levels by training for 2 hours four times a week as well as representing Monash University in competitions all around Australia. The experience and interaction is loads of fun. Social activities during the year include barbeques, camps, team dinners and other forms of

functions outside of Taekwondo giving us an opportunity to get to know everyone in the team while we're not too puffed out from training.

I plan on completing my university degree majoring in accounting by 2007. Complemented with part-time work while I'm studying, I hope to be able to find full time work in the banking industry. However, I'm open to wherever life takes me. There is a world of opportunity out there and I'm happy to roll my sleeve up and get into it when I have a university degree under my belt.

Working in the careers and employment internship was paramount to preparing me for a future career. Spending time working at the vacation employment fair opened my eyes up to the enormous variety to potential career paths. All the information available at the careers and employment office was invaluable to researching how to get where I want to go. The services provided such as careers counselling, resume writing and interview skills were extremely useful come the real thing.

Getting involved in the careers and employment internship was, for me, intended to get exposure to more knowledge about what options were out there. I wanted to find out what was available and which paths were open to me before I commit to a specific target. Also, knowing about the selection process and how to go about landing that dream job was also a reason why I got involved in the careers and employment internship. All of the above things I have achieved during my time here. It was definitely time well used.

Make the most of your time at the internship. Forget the risk of being annoying and ask lots of questions. The staff at the careers and employment office knows what they're talking about so exploit their expertise. Don't be shy. Talk to potential employers at careers fairs and get to know their selection process and requirements. Then make use of that knowledge starting NOW. Time waits for no one. The sooner you start getting yourself prepared for a future career, the better position you'll be in when recruitment times roll around. It might seem like a long way off now but you'll be surprised at how quickly it'll creep up on you.