



## Open High School

78 Avoca Street, Randwick NSW 2031

<http://www.theopenhs-d.schools.nsw.edu.au>

(02)9381-4800

(02)9381-4950

## Careers News

Term 3 Number 2, 2015

### In this issue, you will read about:

- Alumnus interview
- Information day
- Scholarship and exchange opportunities

### Meeting our Alumnus – Daniel Kordik (Class of 2012)

Daniel Kordik started studying Russian language in 2011 at Open High School when he was in Year 11. Since Daniel graduated high school, he has ventured to China and has become a fluent speaker of Chinese, as well as being fluent in Russian. In this issue, Daniel has shared his story and views on learning different languages.

### Starting Russian at Open High School...

Open High School reminded me how amazing it is to study languages, and how it is unlike studying any other subject. When one prepares for a biology exam, one learns biology; when one learns a new language, one can at once see into the mindset and traditions of an entire culture, evolving over hundreds of years. When one learns about the history of a nation, he sees only a transcript of events, written after the fact - on its own. This is not enough to truly understand a culture, any more than looking at a piece of bread can teach someone to bake; but *through the study of languages, one can understand how the people in question see the world, what they value, and what they live for*. I had completely forgotten all this before choosing to study at Open High School (originally, just to brush up on my Russian handwriting!) I'm very happy that I did re-discover this when I did. It was this which inspired me to begin learning Chinese, and to take my study of Russian grammar more seriously.

### Daniel's in-country language learning experience...

I am doing a Bachelor of Information Technology degree with a major in Information Communications Technologies in Monash University in Melbourne. I did an 8 months software development internship in China, and I visited Russia regularly. Since Russian is my mother tongue, I don't think the term "in-country study" applies, but a short journey to China certainly helped me improve my spoken Chinese. After I came back, Chinese people began asking me if I was born in China! So *I definitely think in-country study is the best way to not only improve one's language skills, but also further one's understanding of the culture in question*.



Since I've come back, I continue to read books and news articles in Russian, and prepare for the level 5 HSK (Chinese proficiency test) exam in my spare time. Next year, I hope to pass level 6 with a score high enough to qualify for a scholarship in China.

### Daniel's philosophy...

*Nothing that's worth doing is easy* - language learning certainly requires great and regular effort. I have met some other people who have been learning either Russian or Chinese. Some of them do not speak as well as I do. They told me that I'm really lucky to have such good language skills, and said, "I wish I could do that". Success is the result of one's daily effort, which I don't plan on ever discontinuing. Reading a chapter of a textbook once a week, and expecting to become fluent in a foreign language is not only delusional, it's also a great waste of time. *Exercising once a week is not the best way to become an athlete*, nor is occasionally thinking about Russian going to turn anyone into Pushkin. If you want to become fluent, you must be sure you're motivated enough to follow the matter through and make sacrifices. But *if your heart's in the right place, it won't even feel like studying at all*.

### Looking into the future...

Because I've always wanted to avoid being stuck in one place, information technology is a major that's equally useful all over the world. To this end, a thorough understanding of different languages ensure that I can always find a common language, no matter where I go - *learning languages is the best way to broaden one's horizons*, not only geographically (by conquering language and cultural barriers), but also by way of opening one's mind to things one may not even know existed. In the future, I plan to do a Master's degree in China, and then return to Russia to live and work. I haven't decided on a career path yet, but I hope to do something where I can communicate in Russian, Chinese, and English on a daily basis.

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## Information Day

### La Trobe University Open Day: Albury-Wodonga

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August, 4.00pm – 7.00pm, 133 McKoy Street, West Wodonga

Speak to staff about study and career options and view the campus.

Contact: 1300 135 045 or <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/openday/albury-wodonga>

### University of Sydney: Open Day Workshops and Lectures

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of August

Those attending the University Of Sydney's Open Day on this day may visit the following website to help plan which lectures and workshops that would like to attend on the day.

[http://sydney.edu.au/open\\_day/mini\\_lectures.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/open_day/mini_lectures.shtml)

### University of Wollongong Open Day

Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 10.00am – 2.00pm

Sydney CBD Campus, Circular Quay, Gateway Building, 1 Macquarie Place, Sydney

Attend the Sydney CBD open day and explore three levels of modern teaching facilities overlooking Circular Quay and the Sydney CBD precinct. You will have the opportunity to chat face to face with their academic staff, learn about their business course, and meet their current students and industry partners and tour of the campus.

<http://www.uow.edu.au/sydney-open-day>

### **Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School: Open Day**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 10.00am – 1.00pm, 1 Chambers Road, Leura

An interactive hands-on day where students can view the campus with a guided tour from a current student and experience work making cocktails and café lattes.

Contact: 9307 4600 or [enquiry@bluemountains.edu.au](mailto:enquiry@bluemountains.edu.au) or <http://www.bluemountains.edu.au/>

### **Georgetown, Princeton, Duke, Columbia and Northwestern Universities' Information Sessions**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 5.30pm, Cranbrook School

For further details and to register, contact: David Berridge at [DBerridge@cranbrook.nsw.edu.au](mailto:DBerridge@cranbrook.nsw.edu.au)

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 5.30pm, MLC Burwood

For further details and to register, contact: Loretta Toole: [ltoole@mlcsyd.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ltoole@mlcsyd.nsw.edu.au)

### **The University of Sydney: Upcoming Compass Events**

Year 8 'Investig8 Uni Day'

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, Camperdown Campus

An opportunity for year 8 students to explore their individual interests in two self-selected 45 Minute workshops.

"To Make Tomorrow" Forum

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, Camperdown Campus

A forum for staff supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students focused on improving students' educational outcomes.

Life@Sydney

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September, Camperdown Campus

A series of lectures, tutorials and presentations on different subject areas for year 11 students identified by the Compass program.

Parents University Visit

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November, Camperdown Campus

Parents from Bridges partner schools are invited to visit the university and to learn about university life, applications, costs and courses. <http://sydney.edu.au/compass/events/index.shtml>

### **City of Canterbury Library Information Sessions**

Prepare for work – Job Advertisements: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 10.30am & 12.30pm

Prepare for work – Communication Skills & Presentation: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 10.30am & 12.30pm

Prepare for work – Interview Techniques: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 10.30am & 12.30pm

<http://www.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/Library/Library-News-Events/>

### **Palms Australia: Information Session**

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 11.00am, Aquinas Academy, 144 Harrington Street, The Rocks

Attend to find out more about Palms. Ask any questions about what is involved and to hear the stories of returnees who have volunteered with Palms. Contact Roger for more information on 9518 9551 or email [joey@palms.org.au](mailto:joey@palms.org.au) or <http://www.palms.org.au/about/events/>

### **Upcoming Mental Health First Aid Courses**

Youth Mental Health First Aid: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, Girraween

Contact: Jenni Goodwin 0405 391 955 or [jenni@jobquest.org.au](mailto:jenni@jobquest.org.au) or <http://www.jobquest.org.au/>

### **UTS: HSC Facebook Live Q & As**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 6.00pm

UTS will be hosting HSC Live Q & A sessions with HSC senior markers and teachers this October. The five subjects and dates of each Live Q and A will be announced soon.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/668149343315626/>

### **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training**

Sydney: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 9.00am – 4.00pm, Venue TBA

A practical course that provides participants with the skills and knowledge needed to help a young person (14-24 years old) live well in spite of mental health problems.

<http://thishealthylife.com.au/upcoming-courses/>

### **The University of Sydney: Wingara Mura – Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January, The University of Sydney, Camperdown

Applications close: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September

The Wingara Mura (Year 9 – 10) and Bunga Barrabugu (years 11 – 12) Summer Program, is an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to learn about life at university by visiting the University of Sydney campus and speaking directly with academics and industry figures. Travel, accommodation and other expenses associated with the program will be paid for by the university. [www.sydney.edu.au/indigenous-summer-program/](http://www.sydney.edu.au/indigenous-summer-program/)

### **Australian National University Campus Tours**

ANU runs one-hour tours throughout the year, where an ANU student will provide first-hand information about their experiences at University and showcase the University's facilities. Tours are held Monday to Friday from 10am to 5pm, and require a minimum of three working days' notice. <http://students.anu.edu.au/events/campustours.php>

### **Le Cordon Bleu Campus Tours**

Experience campus life at Le Cordon Bleu in a guided tour and information session, where you can learn about cuisine, cookery and hospitality.

Group or individual tours with Le Cordon Bleu can be arranged by registering your interest on their website. <http://www.lecordonbleu.com.au/sydney/booktour/en>

### **Other information**

#### **UAC Undergraduate Admissions 2016**

Applications for semester 1 in 2016 open: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

On-time applications close: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September

<http://www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/>

#### **UTS: New Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education and New Primary, Secondary Teaching Majors**

The new Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education degree will now feature a choice of three education majors – Primary Education, Secondary Education, and K-12 Education.

As with all teaching degrees offered from 2016, a minimum of three Band 5 HSC results, including one in English is a prerequisite for entry into the course. Students who do not meet these requirements may be able to gain entry into the course via a UTS approved pathway.

[www.uts.edu.au/future-students/education/study-areas/teacher-education-undergraduate](http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/education/study-areas/teacher-education-undergraduate)

#### **Open Universities Australia**

Studying at Open Universities Australia allows students to work their way through a degree, at a pace that suits them, and then graduate with the same qualification as an on-campus student.

[www.open.edu.au/](http://www.open.edu.au/)

#### **Torrens University Online Courses**

Torrens University Australia offers flexible online study options, with courses available in Business, Project Management, Public Health, Education, as well as options to study Higher Degrees by Research online. As part of their online study system, Torrens also offers Touch-Point weekend sessions every trimester, allowing students to meet with their peers and lecturers and go over course content, as well as networking opportunities. <http://www.torrens.edu.au/studying/online>

### **Charles Sturt University: Massive Open Online Course**

CSU's free online course, 'What's Uni Like?', aims to build students' pre-tertiary achievement levels and develop important university skills such as academic writing and reading, student expectations, digital literacy, and online learning.

<http://news.csu.edu.au/latest-news/education/higher-education/csu-mooc-asks-whats-uni-like>

### **UTS Expanded Eligibility for Access Schemes**

UTS's Schools' Recommendation Scheme (SRS) is an equity-focused scheme aimed at helping Year 12 students gain entry into university. UTS is broadening SRS eligibility criteria to include students attending EAS listed schools.

[www.uts.edu.au/future-students/teachers/essential-information/schools-recommendation-scheme](http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/teachers/essential-information/schools-recommendation-scheme)

### **NSW Youth Work Conference 2015**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, SMC Function & Conference Centre, Sydney CBD

An opportunity for the NSW Youth Sector to explore current issues and best practices from across NSW. Specific details about the conference will be released closer to the event.

<http://youthaction.org.au/youthworkconference/>

### **Job Outlook Career Quiz**

The Job Outlook Career Quiz takes students' answers to a small range of questions and provides them with detailed career profiles for jobs in fields that might suit them. The career profiles include future job prospects, skills needed for that job, vacancies, training opportunities and any relevant reports or links. <http://joboutlook.gov.au/pages/careerquiz.aspx>

### **The University of Sydney: Compass**

The University of Sydney's Compass program seeks to address the under-representation in higher education of students from low socio-economic backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and regional students. Compass provides information and hosts events for selected schools and students to showcase the breadth of post-school vocational training and higher education opportunities available. [www.sydney.edu.au/compass/](http://www.sydney.edu.au/compass/)

### **On-Campus Accommodation at Warrane College UNSW for 2016**

Warrane is a residential college affiliated with UNSW which offers its residents a more complete university experience. Residents are encouraged to develop academically, culturally, socially and on the sports field. We run a number of extra-curricular programs to develop a sense of leadership and community service among residents, including a yearly overseas work camp.

- Residential and academic tutors
- Weekly VIP guests and industry connections
- Fully catered and affordable fees
- Wide range of accommodation scholarships

Check out their website for more details: [www.warrane.unsw.edu.au](http://www.warrane.unsw.edu.au)

### **Labour Market Information Portal**

This resource provides up to date labour market information to help better understand which industries are employing in your local area. [www.deewr.gov.au/lmip/](http://www.deewr.gov.au/lmip/)

### **The University of Newcastle Newstep**

Newstep is a one-year pathway program between school and undergraduate study for 18-20 year olds who have completed the HSC but were not accepted into university, have experienced adverse circumstances during their senior secondary schooling, or did not complete the HSC. Prospective students may apply for Newstep by listing Newstep as their final preference through UAC or by applying directly through the university.

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/future-students/undergraduate-study/other-pathways-and-study-options/newstep/about-newstep>

## **Discover Hospitality**

This online resource has advice about starting a career in the hospitality industry, with real-life success stories and insights from industry leaders. It also has a job search section where you can look for jobs or training opportunities in your area and to suit your education and lifestyle.

[www.discoverhospitality.com/](http://www.discoverhospitality.com/)

## **Scholarships and other Opportunities**

### **Vision Australia Further Education Bursary**

Applications close Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015

The Bursaries are awarded to a select number of students who are blind or have low vision, and provide adaptive technology to people who find it difficult to afford it themselves, enabling them to succeed with their post-secondary school studies.

Applicants must be (or become) a client of Vision Australia, and be enrolling to study a Certificate IV or higher accredited course (including undergraduate and postgraduate degrees) at an institution in Victoria, ACT, NSW, Queensland, the Northern Territory, or Tasmania. Visit

[www.visionaustralia.org/bursary/](http://www.visionaustralia.org/bursary/)

### **Australian Defence Force Academy Education Award**

Presented annually to Year 12 students in recognition of leadership potential, and academic and sporting achievements exhibited during Year 11. The award comprises of a laptop computer and certificate for you, along with a plaque of recognition for your school. There are up to 100 awards available on behalf of the Navy, Army and Air Force which will be presented to suitable applicants who have applied for entry to ADFA.

You need to submit an application prior to 28<sup>th</sup> February in the year you undertake Year 12. However, you are encouraged to apply in Year 11.

[www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/adfa/howToApply/educationAward.aspx](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/adfa/howToApply/educationAward.aspx)

### **Australian Government Cadetships, Scholarships and Work Experience Opportunities**

The Australian government has a number of cadetship, scholarship, and work experience opportunities within Australian Government departments and agencies. To view these opportunities, visit:

<http://australia.gov.au/topics/employment-and-workplace/australian-government-jobs/cadetships-scholarships-work-experience>

### **ANU: Equity Accommodation Scholarships**

Each year the Australian National University will offer a number of scholarships to assist students in financial need from outside of the Canberra region who are commencing a degree program at the Australian National University. The scholarships aim to assist students with the accommodation expenses associated with relocating to Canberra to commence at the ANU.

[www.anu.edu.au/students/scholarships-support/anu-equity-accommodation-scholarship](http://www.anu.edu.au/students/scholarships-support/anu-equity-accommodation-scholarship)

### **Think Education: 2016 Scholarships**

Think's colleges have a range of scholarships available to students who are motivated, creative, and talented in the area they want to study. Application closing dates for scholarships vary, with some scholarship applications closing as early as August.

<http://www.think.edu.au/studying-at-think/scholarships>

### **Australian Veteran's Children Assistance Trust Scholarships 2015**

Applications open Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August and close Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October

The Australian Veteran's Children Assistance Trust, provides scholarships based on need and merit to children and grandchildren of ex-serviceman or women to study at TAFE, university, or a private college. Visit [www.avcat.org.au/Aboutus/OurScholarships.aspx](http://www.avcat.org.au/Aboutus/OurScholarships.aspx)

### **Dumbo Feather New Conversations Competition**

Entries close Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September

This competition is open to Australian students in years 9 and 10 to interview someone who inspires them and then tell their story in writing, a cartoon strip or video.

<http://www.dumbofeather.com/new-conversations-high-school-competition/>

### **Heywire Competition**

Entries close Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September

Annual competition for young people aged 16-22 from regional Australia. Competition requires individuals to create a story about themselves and the community they live in. Stories may be in range of forms including text, video, photography and song. Winners receive an all-expenses paid trip to the Heywire Regional Youth Summit in Canberra.

<http://www.abc.net.au/heywire/competition/>

### **National Indigenous Women's Conference and National Indigenous Men's Conference**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September, Hilton Hotel, Darwin

The conferences' aim is to provide a platform for Indigenous Women and Men to celebrate their achievements in their home, family, community and workplace.

<http://www.indigenousconferences.com/>

### **Teach.NSW**

This website is a very useful resource for current HSC students interested in becoming a teacher in the NSW public school system. As well as containing information about teaching as a career, the website provides details of a number of scholarships relevant to current year 12 students.

<http://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/>

### **Defence Force University Sponsorship**

The Defence University Sponsorship allows students to study an accredited degree at any Australian university and graduate with a career in the Navy, Army or Air Force.

[www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/universitysponsorship](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/universitysponsorship)

### **Exchange or Overseas Opportunity**

#### **Gap Year**

A website providing opportunities and advice for students interested in taking a gap year.

[www.gapyear.com/](http://www.gapyear.com/)

#### **Gap year in Indonesia**

They offer a variety of programs:

- Language & culture in Yogyakarta (language class is part of this program)
- Business & government in Jakarta (no language class)
- Environment & trekking in Sumatra (no language class)

Check them out at <http://www.gapindonesia.com>

### **WEP Information Sessions**

Have questions answered with a personalized and engaging information session.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm – 9.00pm, Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre, Level 1, 405 Crown Street, Surry Hills

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, Stanton Library, 234 Miller Street, North Sydney

<http://wep.org.au/lets-talk/sessions/>

### **Choosing a Volunteering Agency Checklist**

Australian Volunteers International, an independent not-for-profit organization, has developed a guide for selecting an ethical, trustworthy and safe international volunteer agency. To view their guide. <http://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteer/resources/choosing-a-volunteering-agency/>

## **Go Overseas**

Go Overseas is a website that allows you to find and compare overseas programs. Every organization and program has been reviewed by students who have participated in that program. There are also over 300 articles on travel available as well as customized country guides.

<http://www.gooverseas.com/>

## **Other Information**

### **Hobsons Course Finder: Five Tips for Tackling Open Days**

[www.hobsonscoursefinder.com.au/Latest-news/Getting-into-university/Five-tips-for-tackling-open-days](http://www.hobsonscoursefinder.com.au/Latest-news/Getting-into-university/Five-tips-for-tackling-open-days)

### **Career FAQs: Four Steps to Picking the Right Course**

<http://www.careerfaqs.com.au/news/news-and-views/four-steps-to-picking-the-right-course/>

### **Benefits of Higher Education**

If you're not sure about whether university is for you, visit this link to find out about some of the benefits of higher education. Click on the different areas of study to find out about some of your specific career interests. <https://www.leap.vic.edu.au/students/business/benefits-of-higher-ed>

### **Group Training Association of NSW & ACT Careers Guide**

Group Training organisations employ more than 8,000 apprentices and trainees in NSW & ACT. The GTANA Careers Guide has information about over 500 apprenticeships and traineeships, and provides information about entry requirements, qualifications, career prospects and more.

<http://www.gtana.com.au/careers-guide/careersearch>

For career information, please contact: Ms A Lam (Careers Adviser & Chinese Teacher)  
9381-4815 or [angela.lam@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:angela.lam@det.nsw.edu.au)

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