

Showcase for learning options

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PEEL Education and Training (PET) Campus held its open day for prospective students last week to attract students to its new education pathways.

More than 180 potential students and their families attended and learnt more about education and career possibilities.

Mandurah Senior College (MSC), Challenger Institute of Technology, Murdoch University and the Career Enterprise Centre had stalls with professionals on hand to provide information about their facilities and courses.

PET development manager Ros MacPherson said the day was a success and the turn-out was higher than expected.

Challenger tourism and hospitality students served guests light refreshments.

Course coordinator Nada Lubay said campus offered students a unique opportunity with all four institutes in the one location.

MSC students have a direct pathway into tourism and nursing courses with Challenger and Murdoch, enhancing their skills set and qualifications.

Murdoch offers a wide range of degrees but specialises in bachelor of nursing and post graduate qualifications in health management while Challenger offers more than 40 different courses.

“The advantage of the shared campus is that students can study across two or even three sectors at once – all within walking distance,” Mrs MacPherson said.

“This means MSC students can access a range of certificate courses while studying in year 11 and 12.”

The nursing transition course allows MSC students in years 11-12 to study at both Challenger and Murdoch on a special pathway into registered nursing degree at Murdoch.

The students receive certificates in aged care, sampling and measurement from Challenger and a pre-university unit from Murdoch as part of their school graduation pathway.

These certificates help students gain part-time employment and progress to their university course.

Adults wanting to study nursing can access it through the nursing combination course which involves study at both Challenger and Murdoch and a direct pathway into the bachelor of nursing course.

For students wanting access to university, Murdoch offers the enabling course ‘OnTrack’ in second semester each year.

“A new and exciting course for 2012 is the Certificate III in engineering (technical) which the MSC students can acquire while studying their year 11 and 12 courses,” Mrs MacPherson said.

“After successfully completing this certificate school students can move onto a diploma, apprenticeship or cadetship in engineering after school graduation.

“With engineering so high up on the federal government’s skills shortage list, this is a pathway with excellent employment opportunities.”

Murdoch regional recruitment officer Natasha Brook said “it is fantastic to see the opportunities available to students at all levels of study.

“Prospective students need to know the pathways available to them so that they can make informed decisions about getting to their desired career.”

Mrs MacPherson said Challenger was offering more courses at diploma level than ever before with new diplomas in events and tourism, joining those in accounting, community services work and hospitality.

Students who have intellectual, physical, social and psychological disabilities are catered for at the Career Enterprise Centre.

The centre offers tailored individual educational, social, and emotional needs to prepare them for life beyond school.



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